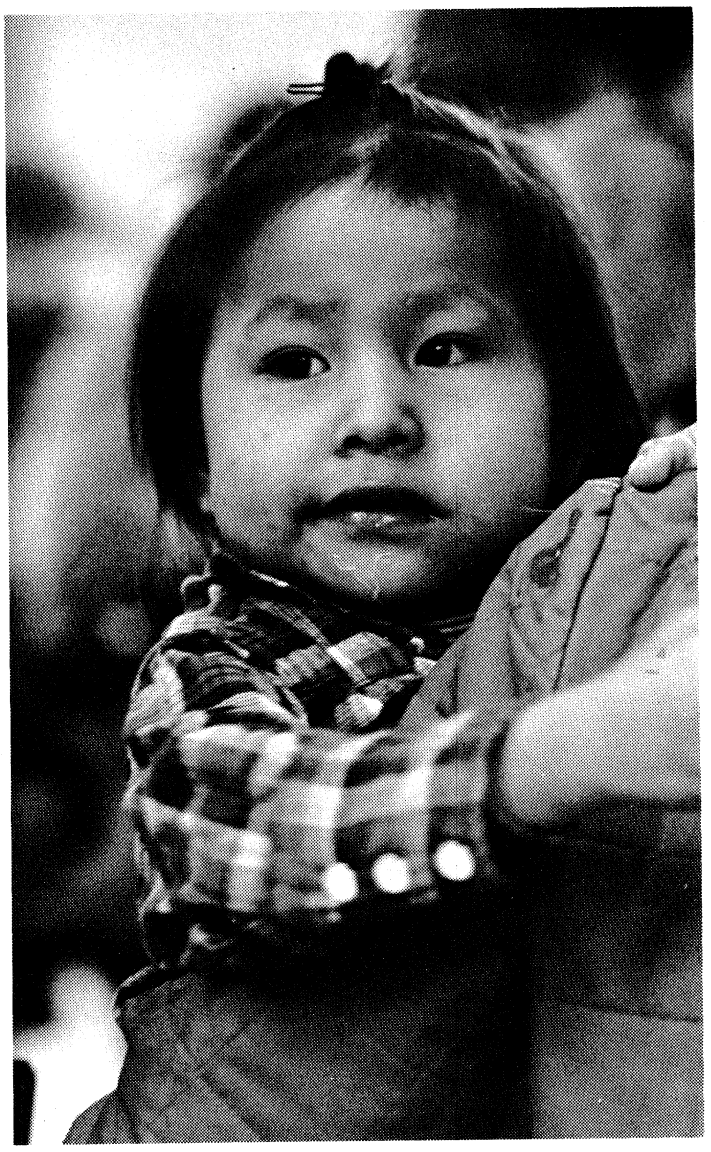

LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

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CORRECTION

In packet #511 in the story on page 11 about "Chicano Killed in Confrontation with Denver Police", the last sentence in the fourth paragraph should read: "He was immediately arrested by the two officers for jay walking and ordered into the car."

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---CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8 (The Pesticide story)

call it to the attention of the public."

"We got a call from a woman in Philadelphia whose guinea pigs--all five of them--died. She was feeding them lettuce. And another woman I talked to--her husband was on a strict 600 calorie diet so he eats four heads of lettuce a day! What if he had eaten lettuce with Monitor 4 on it?"

"The gas companies push this stuff," she explained. "They've been told it's harmful, but they don't take it seriously. They don't look at people as people."

* * *

The United Farmworkers have been trying to track down more of the poisoned lettuce, but recommend that consumer stop using all head lettuce (e.g. iceberg and Boston)--in addition to the boycott of iceberg lettuce that the union has requested in an effort to force the growers into recognizing the UFW.

They also urge people to phone their local Department of Public Health and public officials to pressure them into testing the lettuce in their area as soon as possible. --30--

(Thanks to the UFW, Human Love in Action, Occupational Epidemic, the Washington Monthly for the information in this story.)

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BELFAST AND DERRY:
TWO CITIES REACT TO THE BRITISH WHITE PAPER

by Richard Trench

LIBERATION News Service

(Editor's Note: The British Government's "White Paper" on Northern Ireland was released on March 20. For many, the White Paper had held the prospect of a new beginning for a nation weary of violence. However, in the days since its release, the reaction has been a good deal less than enthusiastic, especially from the working classes of both the Catholic and Protestant communities.

The law itself turned out to be not much more than a lot of big words. It promised the election of a democratic assembly--but one without power; it promised an end to the hated internment and yet spoke of another "Detention of Terrorists Act."

The following are the impressions of Richard Trench, an LNS correspondent who has observed and participated in the Northern Ireland struggle for two years.)

Belfast, N.I.
March 20, 1973

For a few brief hours on March 20, there was unity in Belfast as Catholics and Protestants gathered in their respective ghettos, huddling over their radios awaiting the news of their fate.

The British government's White Paper on Northern Ireland, or the "Northern Ireland Constitutional Proposals, presented by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland by command of her Majesty," as its correct title goes, came to the people of the Protestant Shankill and Catholic Falls Districts over their radios bit by bit.

The White Paper said that Northern Ireland's Stormont Parliament, bastion of Protestant ascendancy, was dead. The post of Governor-General, the last nineteenth century symbol of Ireland's colonial past, was to be abolished. A Bill of Rights guaranteeing all sections of the community protection against religious discrimination, was to be legislated. The Special Powers Act, a law that a South African Minister of Justice has said that he envied, was to be repealed.

And elections were to be held for a new democratic assembly (the first democratic assembly that Northern Ireland has ever experienced) "as soon as possible."

It is hard to believe that five years ago we had marched for these very demands under the banner of Civil Rights. And harder still to believe that these were the very "intermediary" demands that the revolutionaries had called for as the first step towards the socialist society.

Now they were ours, but they had become meaningless. Are we "mad" that now, 750 deaths later, we reject them? Are we "impossible" because now after so much bitterness, so much anger, so much hope, we throw them aside? Are we ungrateful because now we ask for still more?

"It takes a bit here and gives a bit there. . . and ends up like a cut-price tailor, producing a suit that no one is willing to wear" was how Bernadette Devlin described the White Paper.

"When I heard it on the radio I couldn't believe it," said one man from the Falls Road. "I suppose I felt that this was what we had been asking for, so I ought to be thankful. But now that I have read it, I can see that it is nothing. They give us a Bill of Rights, and then they tell us that the soldiers must remain. What kind of rights are those when I'm too frightened to let my children play on the streets because I'm frightened that the Army's going to shoot them?"

"They talk about a democratic assembly and then they tell us that its going to have no powers. They tell us that internment is to be finished, and then they talk about a 'Detention of Terrorists Act,' with no juries and no safeguards for the accused. I know that everyone thinks we're all mad, but do they think that we're stupid too?"

In the week previous to the publication of the proposals the horribly misnamed "peace-line" that divides Protestant from Catholic in this city was strengthened. The great corrugated iron walls that British troops had built were raised even higher, so that no community can now even see what the other community is doing, and the concertinas of barbed wire that stretch across the street like hurdles were doubled and tripled. These walls deepen the wounds that the city suffers from, and worse, they rub salt into them.

"All this talk of a Bill of Rights and giving catholics jobs,"said a Protestant from the other side of the 'peace-line,' to me its a sick joke. I'm a good loyalist, I've always been loyal to the Crown. There's not a drop of rebel blood in me. But I haven't had a job in seven years. When them Tiags (Catholics) were calling for their civil rights and equal jobs--and that means taking what few jobs us Protestants have from us--I was without work, and I never complained.

"When the Provisional IRA started their bombings and were cutting more men out of work, I was still without a job. When Willie Whitewash (William Whitelaw, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland) came here and took away our parliament and started telling us how to behave as if we were animals, I was still without a job. And I'm still without a job. Why don't you write about how I've been discriminated against?"

Many expected the holocast that afternoon, but it never came. Rather it was the overbearing silence of it all that made the city so edgy. The friendly sunshine of the beginning of spring contrasted with the cold sight of thousands of troops roaming the city, and the faint cheers of the middle-classes could not be heard above the deafening silence.

Little had changed in the Falls Rd. district as I made my way back there past the convoys of armoured cars and frightened soldiers who waited for a radio message calling them to action. No children played with their skipping ropes on the streets, no crowds of women came back from the city center with their bags of shopping. Little knots of men stood on street corners like people's policemen.

They waited for something that they feared,

more...

knowing that if it started it could not be stopped, but waiting still, with that irrational but healthy optimism that still seeps through the streets in spite of the wearyness, in spite of the hatred.

Cracked bricks and broken glass littered the streets, a relic from the morning's riot with the Army. In the bombed out, wrecked hovels where human beings once had lived; the only sign of life was the scampering of rats. On those walls still in place, newly written slogans told their own story. "Buy now, while shops still last," said one. "Is there life BEFORE death?," asked another; "Keep the Falls alive," pleaded another.

I went to see Billy McMillan, who is said to have been the head of the Official IRA in the Falls Road during the early troubles of '69 and '70. He had defended the area against Loyalist (Protestant) right-wing extremists in August 1969, and against the British Army the following year. Now he looked depressed.

"It's not that bad," he said, trying to sound optimistic. "There's a reaction against the Provo's bombing and we're still very much intact." The best thing that he could see in the White Paper was the hint in it that Sinn Fien, the political wing of the Official IRA might be made legal and able to fight in the forthcoming elections.

"The point is that people are very weary, but they have not lost their aspirations. They want an end to the violence but they also want their demands met. If we can channel this energy into elections . . . ." and then he broke off in mid-sentence. There was obviously too much on his mind to be able to think clearly so far ahead. With civil war so close it is hard to think far ahead.

I left him and made my way into the darkening streets. Through the window of a house a few doors down, the flickering television set showed William Whitelaw appealing for calm. Billy McMillan had been right when he told me that the socialist solution was the only answer to the agonies of a divided working-class. Whitelaw, pro-consul of Northern Ireland, quite frankly had no answer for the problems, except to try to create the non-sectarian capitalist state that he spelled out in his White Paper.

The image of a hopelessley confused Whitelaw reminded me of a speech made in Belfast only a few days previously by David Reynold, director of Community Relations. In it he expressed the fears of the powers in the land, about the future of the city.

In five years time, he said, "there will be no mixed communities left. Each area of about two thousand or three thousand people will be organized and controlled by one of the para-military organizations. The areas will be peaceful because these groups will see to it that there is no trouble, and anyone who steps out of line will be dealt with--shot. Each of these areas will have mafia-style shoot-outs. Actual crime will take place outside these areas, in middle class districts. . . .Police will go into these areas, but only in armored cars and in numbers."

I realized that it was not the future that he was describing, as he said, but the present.

I made my way back through the tiny, confused streets of the Falls. On a street corner I met a citizen-patrol. The four men, sharing a cigarette in the cool evening, were tense, shifting from one foot to another. A burst of machine-gun fire sent them scurrying into doorways. We later found out that a young sixteen year old boy had been shot dead, and his fifteen year old friend wounded by a hail of bullets from a passing car, aimed at a group just like ourselves.

A little later the silence was shattered again when we found that it was only a trio of drunks, happy after a few hours of escape from the depressing surroundings that they were forced to live in.

"They too are the casualties of war",said one of the men to me after the three had passed. "And no White Paper from the Conservative Party at Westminster will bind their wounds."

* * *

Derry, N.I.
March 21, 1973

Bogside awoke the morning after, the sun shone down on her little slums, glared across the street, reflected off the corrigated iron of the British Army fortifications, and her people met in groups outside the news vendors, and talked about the British government's White Paper on Northern Ireland.

"I don't know what to make of it," said one Bogsider. "Mr. Whitewash said on the television that he wants us all to read it. Well, it's all nonsense to me. If they really wanted us to be able to read it, you would think that they would put it in language that we could all understand. Oh no. You've got to have gone to the University to understand the words they use. And how many of us from the Bog have been to university, I ask you?"

"It should be utterly rejected," said another man. "It's all talking about changes at the top, but that means nothing to us.

"I guess that a few years ago we would have been happy with all this, but not now. Not after Bloody Sunday and Motorman, and all them bastards," he added, indicating a convoy of armored personnel carriers of the British Army that were rumbling by.

Those who awoke late didn't have a chance to consider the White Paper. All the copies and all the morning's newspapers were sold out by half past ten. "To be honest I just don't know," said one late riser. "All I know about it is what they said on the television. It sounded very good. But it was a long time ago that I stopped believing what was said on television."

Probably one out of every five people didn't care. "I've always been more fortunate than everyone else here," said one Derry woman. "I supposed I'm luckier than most people here because I've always had a job."

Others had other reasons for their apathy. Poverty is time consuming and energy consuming. There is little left to think about if you've got to bring up ten children on welfare payments. The faces of those who passed the discussions by were worn and drawn out. Many were prematurely aged

through worry and tension.

Another fifth of the people once cared but now were beginning to cease caring. They were weary of it all, and all they wanted was to be able to survive. "When's it all going to end?" is how they would start every political conversation.

The majority however, were proud of their stubbornessS, proud that for a year between August 1971, when Internment started, and August 1972, when the British roared into Free Derry, smashing their barricades, they had kept the British Army out of their streets.

"It's 40 wasted pages," said the man who sells the children's clothes in the "People's Coop", run by the Derry Unemployed Action Committee. "If they were really going to be honest, they would have just said: 'Look, we're replacing a sectarian state with a non-sectarian state, but by God, it's not you, the people that are going to gain anything out of it.'

"I mean, Jesus Christ, look at the way the division line has gone over this White Paper. The Catholic working-class has rejected it. The Protestant working-class has rejected it. While the capitalists, the generals, the big time politicians, and every Tom, Dick and Harry that has something to lose is saying that it is the best thing that has happened to Ireland since the invention of the five pound note.

"I don't need to read the White Paper to know what attitude I should take. I look at the people who have had to suffer the material losses and the indignities that I have had to suffer, and I look at the people who have caused the suffering, and I know what my views on it are."

Derry is probably one of the safest places to be in the event of civil war. Unlike in Belfast where the Catholic community is virtually being held hostage by a million Unionists, here the Catholics are in the majority. And besides, a strong a and politically mature Official IRA exists to stop sectarianism leading to pogroms.

Unlike Belfast, where Provos vastly outnumber Officials, here the left wing republicans have prevented the sectarian outrages that Belfast has suffered, and a reasonably responsible Provisional Command has ensured that the campaign of bombings and shooting is kept at a level that has not provoked serious retaliations to the Catholic community. Only five Catholics have been killed in sectarian murders, and no Protestants have been killed in this way.

Thus the White Paper was greeted with appraisal rather than fear, with discussion rather than with gunfire. The people of Derry talk by their shops about the British government's proposals that they reject, and they express their fears for the people of Belfast.

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"Americans in the last decade were told that the criminal was not responsible for his crimes against society, but that society was responsible. I totally disagree with this permissive philosophy."

--Richard Nixon in a radio speech on Mar.10.

SUPREME COURT SAYS EQUAL EDUCATION NOT A RIGHT

WASHINGTON (LNS)--On March 21, the Supreme Court ruled, in a 5-4 decision, that education was "not among the rights afforded explicit protection under our federal Constitution." The four Nixon appointees plus Potter Stewart formed the majority. The minority opinion consisted of the four Warren Court holdovers: Marshall (the only black on the Court), Douglas, White, and Brennan.

The ruling came as part of a decision which upheld the right of Texas school districts to fund their schools unequally, based on property tax revenues. At issue was the education of Chicano children. The decision declared it proper for the predominantly Chicano schools to receive $231 per child per year while in the schools of a neighboring district of wealthy homes, $594 was allocated for each child.

Texas isn't the only state where such disparaties exist. In New York for example, there is a range of from $1800 to $600 per child depending on the wealth of the school district.

The suit to equalize school spending in Texas was brought by fifteen Chicano parents from San Antonio, who sought the application of the 14th Amendment's "equal protection" clause. They asserted that it was discriminatory for their children to receive an inferior education because they lived in neighborhoods whose assessed land and property values did not yield high enough revenues even though they were taxed at a higher rates than the wealthier areas.

The U.S. District Court in San Antonio had supported the Chicano parents' case, ordering Texas to find alternate financing methods. But the recent Supreme Court decision overturned that ruling. Had the decision gone the other way, every state but Hawaii would have had to find means other than property taxes to finance their school systems.

The implications of this rulling go far beyond the Texas school system. By declaring that education "is not among the rights" guaranteed by the Constitution, the Court has added more fuel to the Nixon Administration's argument that being poor is the fault of the poor and no one else.

In a society which demands a high-school diploma just to get a job; where reading is a virtual necessity to survive, the notion that education is not something to be administered "equally" is astounding. But not so astounding really, when you consider that the right to adequate health care, the right to a job, and the right to eat decently also seem to be among the rights not protected by the Nixon Court's interpretation of the Constitution.

In fact, the Supreme Court's decision addressed itself to just those issues. It feared that if it voted in favor of equal spending for schools, soon the allocation of tax funds for things like medical facilities, and other "public services" would come under the same "equality" provision.

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HOT NEWS HAPPENING?? call lns at (212) 749-2200

RADICAL THIRD WORLD BOOKSHOP IN S. LONDON FIREBOMBED; WAS ALSO CENTER FOR AMERICAN EXILES

by Fritz Efaw

[Editor's note: Fritz Efaw is the president of the Union of American Exiles in Britain and lived at 74 Railton Road.]

SOUTH LONDON, Britain (LNS)--The Unity Center Bookshop at 74 Railton Road in South London was destroyed by a firebomb in the early morning of March 15.

One year ago, 74 Railton Road was an empty shell, owned by Lambeth Council (a local government authority) and marked for demolition. Months of hard work transformed it into a home for the Unity Center, the first and only center serving the people of mostly third world Brixton in South London, as well as for the Union of American Exiles in Britain, a meeting place for American veterans and exiles. Three people who worked actively in the Center and the Union lived in the building as well.

The bomb completely destroyed the building, including the entire stock of literature and other items on sale in the ground floor bookshop, the files, records and office equipment of the Union of American Exiles (UAE) and the personal belongings of the three people living in the first and second floor apartments above the shop.

Only one of the three was at home when the fire occurred, and he narrowly escaped death by leaping from a second floor window.

The building is located in an area of South London where many first and second generation immigrants from (predominantly third world) Commonwelath countries live, and the bookshop stocked literature about black peoples and the struggles of third world and workingclass people.

"This information is freely available in bookshops in Central London, but is kept out of areas where working people live," a member of the Center said. "This is why Unity Center was seen as a threat to tories [Conservative Party members] and fascists in South London."

"This is why two Monday Club [a right-wing grouping within the Conservative Party] G.L.C. [Greater London Council] candidates Nicholas Bennet and John Pritchard publically agitated to get Unity Center destroyed in speeches and letters to the press. This is why Unity Center had received threatening letters from anonymous fascist groups and individuals over the past several months."

It's not the first time such agitation has let loose terrorist violence on black people in South London. In January, 1971 six black people were scarred for life when a firebomb was thrown into a party in Lewisham, South London.

Things had been relatively quiet until this past February when British Home Secretary Robert Carr announced that he was placing controls on third world immigration. That same week George Berry's pub in Coldharbour Lane and a food store in Lawson Road were bombed, causing $6,000 damage.

"It was the first sign of violence since we found a burning Ku Klux Klan cross on a window six years ago," said Berry.

The next week Larkie's barber shop in Brixton was attacked. All of these were cultural centers for black people in South London.

On the same night that Unity Center was attacked, five small shops owned by black and Asian shopkeepers in Brixton and Tooting were bombed as well, causing various amounts of damage.

Both the Unity Center and the Union of Exiles have moved to temporary addresses since the bombing and definitely plan to continue operating. "Fire can destroy the materials," said one Center spokesperson, "but not the community spirit that built the center."

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[see graphics section in this packet for photo to go with this story]

ITALIAN WORKERS TAKE OVER FACTORY IN MILAN TO PROTEST THE OWNER CLOSING IT DOWN

MILAN (LNS)--Last December 15, the owners of the GMB print shop in Segrate, a suburb of Milan, announced that they intended to shut down their factory. In response, GMB's 180 employees occupied the plant. And now, three months later, the workers are still there--24 hours a day. In those three months, the printshop has been converted from a producer of semi-pornographic comics to a producer of leaflets, posters and pamphlets for workers struggles in the Milan area.

What the GMB workers have done is not unusual. There are thousands of occupied factories all over Italy, one manifestation of the crisis of the Italian economy which has produced spiraling inflation and massive unemployment. The occupations come as a result of an increasingly common phenomena--the factory shut-down.

Italian factory owners have been shutting down factories more and more either to reinvest their money in more profitable areas of the economy or to cash in on a government subsidy program for "industries in distress."

At GMB, the workers met on December 15 to decide how to respond to the management's announcement. They elected a committee made up of members of the plant's Factory Council (a growing movement in Italy, it is a militant alternative to the trade union structure).

The Committee has directed the occupation, designating teams of workers for the tasks to be done: running the cafeteria, keeeping the factory clean, collecting funds (Italian trade unions do not provide funds for striking workers), publicity, printing and so on. The men occupy the plant during the night, the women during the day.

At first there were some problems. Parents of young boys who worked in the plant objected to their participation in the occupation until the Committee sent representatives to talk with them. Many women who worked in the plant were forbidden to participate by their husbands. The Committee invited the husbands to inspect the factory and eventually suc-

more....

ceeded in getting them to join the occupation along with their wives.

In the three months of the occupation, the GMB workers have created a focus for the labor movement in Milan. The factory has become a cultural center, with GMB workers putting on plays, showing movies and holding conferences. In return other workers in Segrate have organized solidarity strikes, and have collected funds to help support the families of the occupying workers.

Factory takeovers like the one at GMB are surfacing all over Italy as the pressures of unemployment and inflation become more apparent. While it is not clear that the GMB workers will be able to force the owner of their plant to re-open, they are gaining valuable experience in the control of their own lives which will serve them as the movement grows.

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[Thanks to Harry MacDonald in Milan for this story.]

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ITT-CIA PLOT AGAINST CHILE REVEALED IN SENATE TESTIMONY

WASHINGTON (LNS)--In March of 1972, Marxist President Salvadore Allende made a speech in Northern Chile in which he said that a "diabolical plan" against his government was in progress and that that plan was part of "an international campaign against Chile."

Allende's remarks have been virtually ignored by the American press and government. However, now, more than a year after his initial charges, testimony before a special Senate subcommittee has made too many waves to be ignored. The committee, investigating the activities of multinational U.S. corporations, has revealed elaborate plans by the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation and the Central Intelligence Agency to bring about the downfall of Chile's Marxist government.

Top officials of ITT, which has $6.6 billion in world-wide assests, admitted to the special Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee that they had worked with the CIA in formulating a strategy for Chile. It was also revealed that ITT president Harold Geneen offered at least $1 million to the U.S. government to use in Chile when it became apparent that Marxist Salvadore Allende Gossens would become president of Chile.

On March 20, William R. Merriam, an ITT vice-president told the subcommittee that the CIA "agreed with the recomendations" of the corporation to prevent the election of Allende.

The 1970 pre-election plans included steps to foment violence in Chile that would bring about a military takeover, and the use of U.S. governmental agencies to supply anti-Allende propaganda to other Latin American countries.

Disagreement among ITT and CIA officials as to exactly which tactics to use delayed any plans from going into motion until after Allende took office on November 3, 1970. According to the company documents released during Merriman's testimony, ITT then shifted its strategy and centered its plans on bringing about an "economic collapse" in Chile.

As part of this plan, according to Merriman, CIA officials made "repeated calls to firms such as General Motors, Ford Motor Co. and banks in California and New York," asking them to stop or reduce their activities in Chile in order to hurt its economy.

Merriman also acknowledged another meeting where he spoke with the Washington representatives of the Anaconda Copper Co., Kennecott Copper, W.R. Grace, Ralston-Parma and the Bank of America about how to deal with the "Chile situation."

About three weeks after Allende's speech in March of 1972, columnist Jack Anderson released secret ITT memos that he had acquired which detailed an anti-Allende plan. ITT denied that it was involved in any anti-government activity in Chile.

The Anderson documents, most of which are among the ones now being released by ITT at the hearings, also said that William V. Broe, director of the CIA's clandestine activities in Latin America, "agreed with" the ITT proposals.

The paper also included a memo which said that the U.S. ambassador to Chile, Edward M. Kerry, had received on September 15, 1970 "a message from the State Department giving him the green light to move in the name of President Nixon" with "maximum authority to do all possible--short of a Dominican Republic-type action--to keep Allende from taking power."

None of the people testifying from ITT denied plans to interfere in the political life of Chile, though different company representatives offered different reasons for the involvement and different interpretations of the interference.

Merriman, who coordinated the operation in Washington in 1970, was the first witness called before the investigating committee, and he spoke freely of ITT's intentions to bring about an "economic collapse" in Chile. He also spoke of "25 visits" to the State Department to discuss the operation and of having talked about the matter with Henry Kissinger and members of his staff for a "year."

On the second day of testimony however, ITT board member John A. McCone denied that anything "surreptitious" was planned in Chile. McCone, the former head of the CIA, said that ITT's $1 million offer to the U.S. was to be used to build housing and to provide technical assistance to Chilean agriculture. Both Democratic and Republican members of the subcommittee were skeptical about his explanation.

"What we had in mind was not chaos," said McCone, "but what could be done constructively. The money was to be channeled to people who support the principles and programs the United States stands for against the programs of the Allende-Marxists."

McCone admitted that when he was director of the CIA he had received offers of financial aid from various American corporations similar to the ITT offer. He insisted, however, that such offers had always been "summarily rejected." Among the main things being considered by the special subcommittee

is the extent of multinational corporation influence on U.S. foreign policy.

Chile is currently in the midst of an economic crisis that has clearly been brought on by right wing sabotage of the economy. Encouraging black market activity, calling for and organizing lock-outs by private business interests and hoarding of goods have been the tactics the Right has used in efforts to bring down the Allende government.

The recent testimony before the subcommittee gives evidence to further strengthen the charges of those who assert that there is much American money behind the sabotage activities.

In a speech before the United Nations in December Allende stated: "Before the conscience of the world I accuse the ITT of attempting to bring about civil war in my country. That is what we call imperialist action."

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BOMB EXPLODES IN N.Y. CENTER FOR CUBAN STUDIES: ANTI-CASTRO CUBANS SUSPECTED

NEW YORK (LNS)--A bomb exploded outside the library of the Center for Cuban Studies (CCS) the evening of March 29. The library and the corridor walls were destroyed by the blast, but no one was injured. Windows were blown out, and a photography studio next door was demolished.

Sandra Levinson, director of the Center, happened to be the only person in the office at the time of the explosion. She climbed down the fire escape, luckily uninjured.

The Center for Cuban Studies has been offering a variety of programs and facilities for those interested in Cuba and other Latin American countries. They sponsor weekly forums on the politics and economies of Latin American countries and the U.S. role there. They give courses in Spanish, and provide a library and extensive files on Latin America.

The Center also shows films; a showing of "Fidel" had been scheduled for the next day.

"My only suspicion is that this is the work of someone from the Cuban Gusano exile community who is opposed to Castro's activities," Levinson said. "I think that they're freaked out at our success. They don't want us disseminating true facts about Cuba."

Four Cuban films ordered by CCS were stolen a month ago from Kennedy airport and the flight bill for the films was later published in a gusano newspaper. Also, within the last two years, two bombs have exploded in N.Y. movie theaters running Cuban films.

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"We have now to do with another race. They were few and weak when our grandfathers first met them, but they are now many and powerful...They have made many laws and these the rich may break but the poor may not. They take money from the poor and weak to support the rich."

--Tatanka Yotanka (Sitting Bull)
Hunkpapa Sioux, 1834-1890

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[Note to editors: See graphics section for photos to go with this story.]

"THEY DON'T LOOK AT PEOPLE AS PEOPLE:" FARMWORKERS, CONSUMERS & ENVIRONMENT SUFFER FROM UNCONTROLLED USE OF LETHAL PESTICIDES

LIBERATION News Service

NEW YORK (LNS)--In November and December of 1972, 38,000 acres of lettuce in California's Imperial Valley were sprayed with a relatively new pesticide called Monitor 4. An unexpected freeze in December slowed down the crucial degeneration of the poison and as a result thousands of cases of dangerously contaminated lettuce were shipped to all parts of the country--Oakland, Los Angeles, St Louis, Charlotte, N.C., Rochester, N.Y., and Chelsea, Mass., to name just a few cities.

And so the battle of the poison lettuce began; a battle between the United Farmworkers, who have tried to alert consumers to the danger of Monitor 4 poisoning, and the lettuce growers, and state and federal agencies who have tried their best not to let the "scare" get out of hand.

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Monitor 4 is an organophosphate belonging to a class of chemicals first developed in Nazi Germany for use as nerve gas. Other pesticide organophosphates appear under such trade names as Parathion, Phosdrin, TEPP, Thimet, Azodrin, Demeton, Ethion, Guthion, and the less potent Malathion. They are closely related to the original German compounds.

An organophosphate attacks the nervous system by suppressing blood enzymes known as cholinestrerases which help regulate the body's nerve impulses. When absorbed through the skin or ingested, it poisons rapidly. Take for instance the case of a pesticide sprayer described by Steve Wodka in Pesticides Since Silent Spring.

"A young sprayer was found dead in the field in the tractor which had been pulling his spray rig. He had been pouring and mixing Parathion concentrate into the spray rig. Parathion has an estimated fatal dose of about 9 drops orally and 32 drops dermally.

"In the process of mixing the concentrate, the worker contaminated his gloves inside and out. He rested his gloved hands on his trousers as he pulled the rig to apply the spray. Parathion was absorbed through the skin of his hand and thighs. He began to vomit, an early sympton of Parathion poisoning. He could not remove his respirator and aspirated the vomitus (strangled)."

Low level exposures to organophosphates create chronic eye irritations, nausea, cramps, depression, and chronic fatigure. If exposure is stopped, the patient usually recovers. But the long term effects of chronic exposure to organophosphate poisoning remain unknown.

To make matters worse, pesticide researchers have discovered that excessive and frequent application of organophosphates creates residues more deadly than the original form of pesticide. One example of this is Paraxon which is several times more poisonous than the lethal Parathion from which

it evolves. Days after fields have been sprayed with Parathion, they can have dangerous residues of Paraxon which may catch the farmworker completely unaware.

The use of organophosphates has increased rapidly in the last few years, particularly with the banning of DDT and the restricted use of similar pesticides like Aldrin and Dieldrin. These pesticides, called chlorinated hydrocarbons, are relatively safe to the touch. But they last for years in the environment and scientists have shown a connection between their use and the incidence of cancer, and birth defects in animals and human beings.

Yet chlorinated hydrocarbons are far from being banned and the use of organophosphates has increased staggeringly. In less than 20 years, the production of chemical pesticides has increased from a few million pounds to nearly one billion annually.

The industry, dominated by large corporations like Shell Oil, The Chevron Oil Co., and Union Carbide, has done a very good job promoting their products, but with little care for the effects these lethal chemicals have on the farmworkers who must work with them, the consumer who might eat contaminated produce, and the environment which must support all life.

The state and federal agencies charged with pesticide control and safety have been equally as unconcerned with safety. For example, in the spring of 1970, over 20 children became violently ill with nausea and stomach cramps when their elementary school in Phoenix, Arizona, was doused by the spray of a lethal pesticide drifting from a nearby sugarbeet field. The spray contained the organophosphate Thimet, the second most toxic of all pesticides in common use.

When the crop duster made his run, the wind was blowing about 10 miles per hour from the direction of the field toward the school. The stench from the spray lingered in its hallways for several days.

At first, Robert Rayburn, administrator of the state pest control applicators board, a regulatory body responsible for pesticide safety, maintained that none of the chemical had drifted from the sugar beet field to the school. When he was confronted with the sick children, he remained unconcerned:

"This is one of the hazards of living next to a field which must be sprayed to save crops. People should learn not to build houses next to fields in these areas."

What is remarkable about this incident is not only the insensitivity of the state pest control official, but that a grower can spray his field with a pesticide as toxic as Thimet on a windy day a few hundred yards from an elementary school and break no law.

There are some federal standards on the books, but they are rarely enforced. Farmworkers coming in contact with pesticides often have no place to wash their hands, recently sprayed fields are not marked, waiting periods after spraying are not observed, medical care is not available.

But while violations of these federal standards threaten the health of farmworkers, the Department of Agriculture (USDA) continues to deliver huge agricultural subsidies to growers who regularly ignore health laws.

For instance, on July 27, 1970, California Rural Legal Assistance unsuccessfully petitioned USDA to cut off payments to 30 agricultural growers who received subsidies of $7.1 million in 1969 while violating these laws.

"It's astounding," said worker-safety advocate Jerome Gordon before a Senate Subcommittee on Migratory Labor hearing in August of 1969, "to compare the USDA spending of over $180 million on pesticide-related research, while allocating less than $160,000 annually for pesticide safety and not including farmworkers in any of the [research] programs."

Without a doubt, farmworkers are the most directly harmed by the use of lethal pesticides. Each year, chemical pesticides in the United States are responsible for thousands of cases of disability and death. Yet most cases are never even reported. California is the only state that makes any real effort to record pesticide-related injuries.

The California Human Relations Agency of the Department of Public Health, issued a comprehensive report in December of 1969 on the dangers of pesticides to farmworkers. The report stated that 150 of every 1000 California farmworkers are adversely affected, including serious illness and death, by the uncontrolled use of pesticides.

The report also concluded that even these figures did not begin to reflect the true magnitude of the problem.

"Almost every farmworker I have spoken to," explained T. Michael Foster of the South Florida Migrant Legal Services Program, "has been sprayed or covered with chemicals while working in the fields. Some have become ill themselves. Others know about the unexplained convulsions resulting in death that follow exposure to the poisons used in farming."

Take for example the case of a young farmworker in Florida mentioned in statistics of the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, and welfare. He died after eating a sandwich in the field without washing his hands. The state board of health later attributed the cause of death to Parathion poisoning, even though the crop he was working in had not been sprayed for 22 days.

In 1963, ninety-four California peach harvesters were poisoned by Parathion residues on the foliage of the orchards in which they worked. "When you talk about farmworkers being poisoned, you're often talking about 40, 50 or 100 people at a time," said Dolores Fuertes, vice-president of the United Farmworkers (UFW). "Once I was taking a couple from Long Island out to see a labor camp in Delano, and they got sprayed--in their car! This dumb guy was flying by and he saw the car and kept right on spraying. And the car was all full of poison. In Delano, you can see the pesticide rolling in like fog."

Children are also the victims of pesticide poisoning. In fact, testimony before a House subcommittee in 1969 revealed that of the 5000 reports of poisoning by pesticides received annually by the Agriculture Department's Pesticide Regulation

Division, about 4000 of them involved children under five.

Robert Fellmeth in his book Power and Land in California, cites one example. "A three year old Mexican-American girl and her four-year old brother were playing around an unattended spray rig next to their mother who was picking berries on a large ranch. The four-year old apparently took the cap off a gallon of 40% TEPP pesticide left on the rig. One drop of pure TEPP swallowed or on the skin will kill an adult--this child weighed thirty pounds.

"The little girl put her finger in the bottle, then in her mouth. She became unconscious and was dead on arrival at the hospital where her mother rushed her. The rig operator was apparently not told to remove the pesticide, much less the rig, immediately after its use; the children's mother was not told of the danger of the pesticide; and there was no supervised safe place to leave the children while the mother worked."

The motto: "STOP: READ THIS LABEL", usually with the credit "Courtesy of the National Agricultural Chemicals Association" can be found in most farm and gardening publications. It projects the pesticide lobby's image of social responsibility. Its basic theme is that pesticide problems, if they exist, arise only through their misuse.

However, the native language of most farmworkers is Spanish and children under the age of five have probably not learned to read. On top of that, according to a study by the University of Illinois completed in 1971, "the average pesticide label is suitable only for those with at least 10 to 12.9 years of formal education."

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Monitor 4 was only registered with the Environmental Protection Agency in April of 1972, yet cancellation was considered as soon as August of the same year. Some scientists thought that it had been approved without enough testing and that the tolerance level accepted for lettuce--1 part per million--was too high to be safe.

Nevertheless the spray was widely used on lettuce in the Imperial Valley from August 1972 to January 1973. According to the Farmworkers, a ground rig operator on the Mario Saikon Company rance in Holtville, California, noticed in December of 1972 that some of the lettuce he was spraying with the chemical appeared "burnt." Samples of the lettuce were sent to the California Department of Agriculture.

When the first results showed dangerously high residues of Monitor 4, another series of samples were taken. But by the time the analysis was completed on January 2, the contaminated lettuce was already shipped to market.

"You know how they reconditioned the lettuce that had been sprayed with Monitor 4?" asked Dolores Fuertes. "Stores in Los Angeles who had cases of the lettuce were allowed to cut it up for salad--you know, put it in plastic bags and sell it as salad. Honest to god! That they [the state and federal Agriculture departments] would go to such lengths to protect the vegetable industry and not

THIS STORY CONTINUED ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER

(NOTE TO EDITORS: See graphics section of this packet for photos to accompany this interview.)

MEDICAL AID FOR INDOCHINA VISITS NORTH VIETNAM: "IT SEEMS LIKE THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS MOBILIZED TO REBUILD"

LIBERATION News Service

(Editor's note: Alex Knopp, who is interviewed here, was one of five Americans who recently returned to this country after spending March in North Vietnam. The group, which was the first to visit that country since the cease-fire was signed, surveyed the results of the Christmas bombing, visited medical centers, and made arrangements to deliver medical aid to North Vietnam as well as to the PRG in the south.

The trip was sponsored by Medical Aid For Indochina, (MAI) an organization that has already raised $750,000 and hopes to raise $3 million to send to Vietnam. MAI has sponsored a wide variety of activities--street soliciting, leafleting, blood drives, rice and tea dinners, craft fairs, concerts and bake sales. They've asked people to fast for a day and asked teachers to give up a day's salary.

But according to Alex, it's not only the money that's collected that's important, it's the work done during the collection. "It's explaining why we're giving, why they need medical supplies and what they will be used for, why we give to the North and to the PRG but not to the Thieu government, why American people should give money."

MAI has a 40-minute slide show, "Medicine and War: The Struggle for Life in Vietnam," which documents health care in the north and in the liberated zones of the south. It can be rented, or purchased for $20.

If you want to find out more about MAI, rent the slide show or give money, write to them at 65a Winthrop Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.)

WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TRIP?

We went to Vietnam to do several things. We wanted to work out arrangements for how the MAI money would be spent in Vietnam--what it would be used to build. We also wanted to get some understanding of the current state of the medical system--if the bombing disrupted it, how they organized to protect it. And of course we also wanted to find out how the North Vietnamese felt about the cease-fire agreement and its implementation so far.

In terms of the bombing, we saw what to me was irrefutable evidence that the health system of Vietnam was an intended target. Bach Mai, which is North Vietnam's largest and most important civilian teaching and research hospital, was struck on December 19 and 22 with over 100 bombs from B-52's. The Bach Mai Medical Center covers about 16 acres with perhaps 20 buildings, Almost every one was hit and pretty well demolished.

We saw a municipal hospital in Nam Dha City where the operating rooms had all been hit. We saw a province hospital in Thai Binh that was bombed, but nothing in the surrounding area had been hit--clear proof, I think, that the bombing was intentional. We were told that, in all, 92 health establishments were bombed between April and December, 1972.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

WAS THE BOMBING DONE WITHOUT WARNING, OR WERE PEOPLE USUALLY ABLE TO EVACUATE THE BUILDINGS IN ADVANCE?

Most of the large health facilities had already been evacuated in anticipation of raids. In fact the Vietnamese said they knew as soon as they painted a red cross on the roof of a building, it would be bombed, so after a while they stopped doing it.

Large hospitals were evacuated to caves or moved underground in the countryside, and patients were moved out to smaller hospitals, so towards the end of the air war most of the large hospitals had very few patients and most of them were war-injured. In fact, although many medical facilities were destroyed, the number of casualties was relatively low--in fact relatively low for the whole country for the duration of the bombing. I think during the Christmas bombing of Hanoi, for example, which was the most intense bombing in the history of the world, only 2000 people were wounded or killed.

WHAT ARRANGEMENTS DID YOU WORK OUT ABOUT MEDICAL AID FOR INDOCHINA?

Well there had been some confusion about this. The Vietnamese health system is a village-based, decentralized system, and originally some Medical Aid people thought it would be best to buy a few things for each clinic.

But the Vietnamese feel it's important to build one large structure--the Ear, Nose and throat Institute at the rebuilt Bach Mai Medical Center. It will have about 200 beds and will cost about $3 1/2 million of which $750,000 has already been collected. The procedure will be to first buy medical equipment for the E.N.T. Institute, and then to rebuild the actual structure, after the blueprints are ready in about 8 months.

Of course the Vietnamese also want money from the United States government--that's part of the cease-fire agreement. And it can't come through the UN, although they'll certainly accept UN money too. It has to be bilateral, that is directly from the United States to North Vietnam, because they feel that fixed the responsibility for the destruction. But it was clear to us that while the Vietnamese wanted millions of dollars from Washington, they welcomed dollars, tens of dollars, even quarters from Americans, and that meant as much to them as large sums from the U.S. government.

They stressed to us how important it was to press the American government to implement the terms of the agreement to make reparations. And they also felt that the American people should have the right to openly rebuild Bach Mai. Right now MAI can't buy American-made supplies and send them to North Vietnam. The Commerce Department doesn't allow it. At some point we'll have to get into a legal struggle with the government to be able to openly rebuild what the government destroyed.

While we were in Hanoi we also worked out an arrangement with the PRG ambassador to send certain kinds of medical equipment to them in the South. They want dental equipment for children and adults, eye-examination equipment, blood pressure meters, basic drugs, and they want teaching equipment-- to teach chemistry, physics, electronics and carpentry to people of high school age.

IS THERE MUCH REBUILDING GOING ON NOW IN NORTH VIETNAM?

It seems like the whole country is mobilized to rebuild. There's a spirit of total committment, of very high energy. Ordinary people are doing the work. Obviously they have some heavy machinery, but as they stressed at Bach Mai, the rebuilding will go on with simple means. At Bach Mai we saw workers sifting through the rubble, trying to find bricks that could be used for the new buildings, and filling in the craters with rubble from the old ones.

The streets were jammed with trucks and oxcarts carrying loads of brick, tile and bamboo. Everywhere we went, people were cleaning up. We saw temporary structures of bamboo and brick for housing and medical facilities being built in many villages. We saw scaffolding set up on partially destroyed buildings, some of which were already rebuilt to the second story.

So they are rebuilding. It's important to realize though that in fact they've never stopped building, that what's been going on in North Vietnam over the last 27 years has been a revolution to transform the country, from the very oppressive conditions under the French into a modern society. So extending the health system, increasing rice production, taking care of the dikes and dams have all gone on during the bombing, during the war.

DID YOU VISIT ANY HEALTH FACILITIES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE?

Yes. The medical system in the North is multi-level system, made up of village health clinics, municipal and district hospitals, province hospitals and central teaching and research hospitals.

We visited the Thai Binh Province hospital, which was quite large, having maybe 500 beds. These hospitals handle major surgery and difficult cases for the province, and also train nurses. Probably every province hospital in the North was bombed.

We also saw a 50 bed district hospital in Thai Binh that was an oddity because it hadn't been bombed. Thisparticular hospital specialized in respiratory diseases.

And at the village level we visited a cooperative with a small clinic which treats minor illnesses and conducts sanitation campaigns for the village. It had about 10 or 15 beds, a new maternity ward and a new traditional medicine facility where they use herbs and recipes to treat illnesses.

Besides the medical centers, we visited many other sites that had been bombed by B-52's over Christmas, including Kham Thien Street which was a very crowded market area full of shops and sidewalk vendors selling vegetables, flowers and handicrafts. Behind the street is a crowded housing area. We visited workers quarters in the suburbs where I think 200 people were killed, and of course we saw Bach Mai.

It's almost impossible to describe what a B-52

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can do. I had thought that carpet bombing meant that there was a whole carpet of craters in a certain area. But it's not only craters-- all the earth within the carpet is churned up as if some giant plow had ripped through it. Very, very huge craters , trees knocked down. In certain parts of Hanoi, the destruction was vast. But the bombing was not meant to obliterate the city: it was meant to terrorize the people.

At the Hanoi War Crimes Museum, they showed us a large relief map with a model of the city built on it, showing all the houses, lakes and roads. The museum director would flick a switch and seven little glowing lights would go on for all the medical establishments bombed during Christmas. He'd flick another switch and six lights would go on for the churches that were hit. Another switch, the five schools, and so on. After he'd flicked several switches the board was glowing with red lights, not spread out all over, but in clusters.

The last switch he flicked turned on a series of white lights which were all the B-52's that were shot down and landed in Hanoi, and there were many white lights on the board as well.

We were taken to see one of the B-52's -- its remains had been brought to a park. This wreckage of the plane was surrounded by an iron fence, and it was as if we were in a zoo, or a museum, looking at some prehistoric monster that they had dug up piece by piece, finding an engine and a wing as if they had found a thighbone and a tail and then tried to reconstruct what they could. You had the sense of this crazed beast. They used to talk about how America was going to bomb Vietnam back to the stone age. And it was as if that expression was transformed, as if we were in Vietnam, looking at a stone age relic of barbarity.

I think that in fact they shot down 34 B-52's in Hanoi, mostly during the Christmas bombing although there were one or two before then. That's a fifth of the fleet, and probably was an important factor influencing Nixon's decision to stop.

These planes were brought down of course with SAM missiles. But it wasn't advanced technology that did it really. It was the organization of people, their morale and spirit. We saw for instance a very small bullet that someone in the women's militia at the March 8 Textile Factory had used to bring down an F-111, the most advanced plane in the world.

DO YOU THINK THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARE EXPECTING THE BOMBING TO START UP AGAIN?

I asked, but from what I could understand it's not in the Vietnamese style to predict events, but merely to understand the forces that are at work. They weren't using the underground hospitals, they stopped making straw hats for protection, and I saw some of the shelters had become filled in with dirt and they weren't being cleaned out. And they're rebuilding above ground, so those to me are small indications that they feel the bombing won't start up again in the North.

But it is unclear what will happen in the South, because they say the situation now is not war, not peace, and they feel that Nixon can't stay out and he can't stay in. Of course the Vietnamese feel that the cease-fire agreement is very important. They say that they will implement it scrupulously and that Thieu and Nixon are the only ones who don't want to see it implemented.

We had a very good discussion about the war with the editor of the Nhan Dan newspaper in which he said that the outcome of Vietnam is unprecedented, because it shows that the big country can no longer dictate terms to the little country, that now the big country must respect the independence of the little country.

In the old days, he said, when the feudal kings gathered the peasant could only serve the tea. And in the old days, when the big countries gathered, it was for the purpose of dividing up the territory of the little countries. But now, he said the little country dictates the terms to the big country and this has changed the whole relationship of countries in the world. Now many other small countries are given encouragement by the fact that the United States with unprecedented military power was not able to subdue Vietnam.

Take Panama for example, where the people are demanding sovereighty over the canal, over their own territory. I read a statement of the Panamanian president who said that if Vietnam can have its freedom, Panama must have its freedom as well. Now perhaps in the future it won't all be that direct, but in fact there probably is now a sense that the United States is no longer invulnerable.

CERTAINLY THE UNITED STATES DID NOT SUBDUE VIETNAM, BUT IT DID DO A LOT OF MATERIAL DAMAGE IN THE ATTEMPT.

Of course while we were there they wanted to show us what the bombing had done and for us to tell Americans about it, but they didn't really stress the destruction and the civilian victims. It was very clear that they didn't want their country to be a museum of destruction.

As I said, the whole country seemed to be mobilized. Everyone is working. Crops are planted everywhere, on the sides of dikes, in the irrigation canals, underneath bridges. And you have this very deep sense of vitality and energy, of people working to improve their lives. They want to clean up, rebuild and get on with living. And the spirit of the rebuilding seems to come out of a sense of victory, of having preserved their human dignity even under the bombing.

We were told that when Joan Baez and Telford Taylor visited North Vietnam over Christmas they were taken to a village where they came upon a woman who was cleaning up the rubble from her house just after a B-52 raid. They asked her what happened, and she said, "Everyone is safe, everything is destroyed, we have defeated the agression."

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APRIL BILLS ARE ON THE WAY. PLEASE PAY THEM SOON!

[See graphics section in this packet and the previous two packets for graphics to go along with this story. Also check back in packets #509 and 511 for the two other stories on the Wounded Knee occupation.]

THE PRESS AND WOUNDED KNEE:
GOBBLING UP THE GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASES

WOUNDED KNEE, S.D. (LNS)--"The parallel to Vietnam is incredible what with the newspapers gobbling up government press releases and printing them as the gospel truth," said one observer of the situation at Wounded Knee, South Dakota.

Since February 27, several hundred Indians from the Oglala Sioux Pine Ridge Reservation and their supporters from the American Indian Movement (AIM) have been holding the little town of Wounded Knee. In 1890 that same town was the scene of a bloody massacre in which 300 Indians were killed by the U.S. Cavalry.

Media access to Wounded Knee has been sharply curtailed ever since March 22. Before that date, news reporters stayed in the settlement overnight. It is at night when most of the shooting between those on the outside--federal marshalls, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police, FBI agents--and the Indians takes place. But on March 22, media people were issued daily passes and had to be out of the settlement by 4:30 pm.

On March 24, the access to Wounded Knee got even tighter. Only major newspapers, wire services and networks were allowed in and only in the daytime. A couple of days later, three people from Akwesasne Notes (an Indian paper), Ebony, and Liberation News Service were ordered off the reservation and threatened by vigilantes.

Tribal chairman Richard Wilson over whose administration, the protests first arose, set up a roadblock on March 26. Not only is he refusing to let reporters in, he is also keeping out food and medical supplies that a Federal District Court judge ruled must be admitted.

"Despite the fact that there are several hundred law enforcement officials including federal marshalls, FBI, BIA police and the National Guard in the Pine Ridge-Wounded Knee area," said Rest of the News reporter Joanna Brown, "they don't seem to be able to enforce the restraining order against twenty or so vigilantes manning Wilson's road blocks."

Food, medical supplies and ammunition therefore have to be snuck in at night. And it's for just that reason that the government sniper fire usually begins--to prevent the movement of people and the transport of supplies.

The morning of March 27 the government firing started at 6 am and continued until noon with snipers inside the Wounded Knee perimeter for the first time, only 100 yards from the houses. The snipers were covered by government armored personnel carriers up on the hill. Firing continued until the Justice Department came in to talk. During the cease fire while the Justice Department was inside, a single engine plane was able to land and deliver supplies. A government helicopter tried to pursue it but lost it.

Although no news reporters were allowed inside Wounded Knee, it didn't stop the New York Times, for example, from saying with surety in a story, datelined March 28:

"One hundred of the Indians holding the historic hamlet of Wounded Knee have offered to surrender, a government spokesman said today, but hard-core dissidents, vowing to die, are said to be keeping them in the village at gunpoint.

"'Five or six seem to want a second Wounded Knee,' said Assistant Attorney General Ken Frizzell, the government's chief negotiator on the scene. . . .

"Mr. Frizzell said that Dennis Banks. . . and Russell C. Means [of AIM] were leading the faction that refused to allow Pedro Bissonet [of the Oglala Sioux Civil Rights Organization] and Leonard Crow Dog [Sioux medicine man] to surrender their followers.

"The government reported today that the two factions inside Wounded Knee had an armed confrontation with each other shortly before last midnight.

"About 11 o'clock last night while many of the Means-Banks followers were out of Wounded Knee on patrol, followers of Mr. Bissonet and Mr. Crow Dog 'got the drop' on the others, Mr. Frizzell said. But before the 100 who wanted to surrender could leave, the Indians on patrol came back into camp, and 'it became a Mexican standoff,' Mr. Frizzell said."

Later the news media let out the word that Banks and Means had left Wounded Knee and were deserting the others.

"The rumors were spread by the system as a tactic," said Ted Means, an Oglala Sioux, and Russell Means' brother, "--divide and conquer tactic. There has been no division."

Mark Lane, one of the lawyers who was finally allowed in through Dick Wilson's roadblock commented: "I was there yesterday and incredibly enough in the midst of this 'mutiny' or 'riot'--it was just a peaceful calm community of men, women and children.

"There were no members of the press at all in Wounded Knee when I was in and therefore it is a little bit difficult for me to understand where the information about what is taking place in there comes from.

"We were at a meeting--it was opened by Russell Means who the media had informed us had fled and was probably in Cuba with $6,000. Dennis Banks was there too though we had been informed by the Senator of South Dakota that he had fled and was out of the country.

"I asked Means and Banks what they were doing there since they were supposed to be in a different country. Means smiled and said, 'We are in a different country--the Oglala Sioux Nation.'"

Dennis Banks and Pedro Bissante even sent out a video tape from Wounded Knee assuring the press that they were not antagonistic to each other.

From the very beginning of the occupation of Wounded Knee, the news media has also insisted on perpetuating the myth that the take-over was an "AIM action". That's not the way it was, said Ellen Movescamp, and Oglala Sioux from the reservation. An impeachment proceeding failed against Dick Wilson on February 22 because of the way the unpopular tribal chief had stacked the Tribal Council. Two days later a meeting was held in Calico, South Dakota.

"All the older people from the reservation were with us and helped us make the decision," said Ellen Movescamp. "Practically all the chiefs were there. There was one medicine man who wasn't because he was real old and sickly and couldn't make it. We decided we needed the American Indian Movement because our men were scared, they hung back.

"It was mostly women who went forward and spoke out and we were practically pushing our men to get them to help us. When we took the vote at Calico, everybody voted that we invite AIM in. People from all over the reservation--the eight districts were represented."

Commenting on the decision-making process inside Wounded Knee, she said, "All the Oglala Sioux most of the time are the only ones in there making decisions and then we let the rest of them know what we're talking about. But this has never been out [in the press] and I don't know why."

Another media distortion centers around the federal marshall who was shot and paralyzed from the waist down on March 26. "They immediately started blaming the people from AIM," said Carter Camp of AIM.

"We know it, and we know it will be born out further when they take the bullet from the federal marshall, that he was shot with an M-16 or an M-60 slug--neither of which we have. And it will bear out the fact that our people observed two roadblocks shooting each other thinking they were shooting Indian people."

At the same time, far off in Hollywood, California, Wounded Knee intruded upon the media dazzle of the Academy Awards. Marlon Brando, who won an Oscar for his performance in The Godfather, didn't show up at the ceremony. Instead, an Indian woman, Scheen Littlefeather, represented Brando and rejected the Oscar for him. "Marlon Brando very regretfully cannot accept the award because of the treatments of American Indians in this country today on television, on reruns and recent happenings at Wounded Knee."

In a statement Brando said, "For 200 years we have said to the Indian people who are fighting for their land, their life, their families and their right to be free: 'Lay down your arms, my friends, and then we will remain together. Only if you lay down your arms, my friends, can we then talk of peace and come to an agreement which will be good for you.'

"When they laid down their arms, we murdered them. We lied to them. We cheated them out of their lands. We starved them into signing fraudulent agreements what we called treaties which we never kept. We turned them into beggars on a continent that gave life for as long as life can remember.

"Perhaps at this moment you are saying to yourself what the hell has all this got to do with the Academy Awards? Why is this woman standing up here, ruining our evening, invading our lives with things that don't concern us, and that we don't care about? Wasting our time and money and intruding in our homes.

"I think the answer to those unspoken questions is that the motion picture community has been as responsible as any for degrading the Indian and making a mockery of his character, describing him as savage, hostile and evil."

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It is significant in a number of ways that the Oglala Sioux chose Wounded Knee as the site for their confrontation with the U.S. government in 1973. For 83 years ago, when 300 men, women and children were slaughtered, the press insisted on calling it a "battle" and that's the way it remains in the history books today.

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Send money, supplies, medicine and clothing for the Indians at Wounded Knee to AIM, 847 Colfax St., Denver, Colorado. 303-222-1581.

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CHICAGO WOMAN TRIED & ACQUITTED FOR ATTEMPTED RAPE

CHICAGO (LNS)--Freddie Baer went on trial recently for assault, battery and attempted rape. She had been arrested by campus police at the University of Illinois last year, after the "victim", Bill Chester, decided to press charges.

In testimony before a woman judge, Chester alleged that "three women invited me to come up for a rape." He also claimed that the women attempted to take off his pants while sitting on his legs. The court ruled that there was insufficient evidence and Baer was acquitted.

Freddie Baer stated that she first heard of Chester when she read his column in the University paper in which he claimed that women enjoyed being raped, and that rape was really a woman's fantasy. He further contended that when women protested being raped that they were merely being coy.

--30--

(Thanks to Herself for this short)

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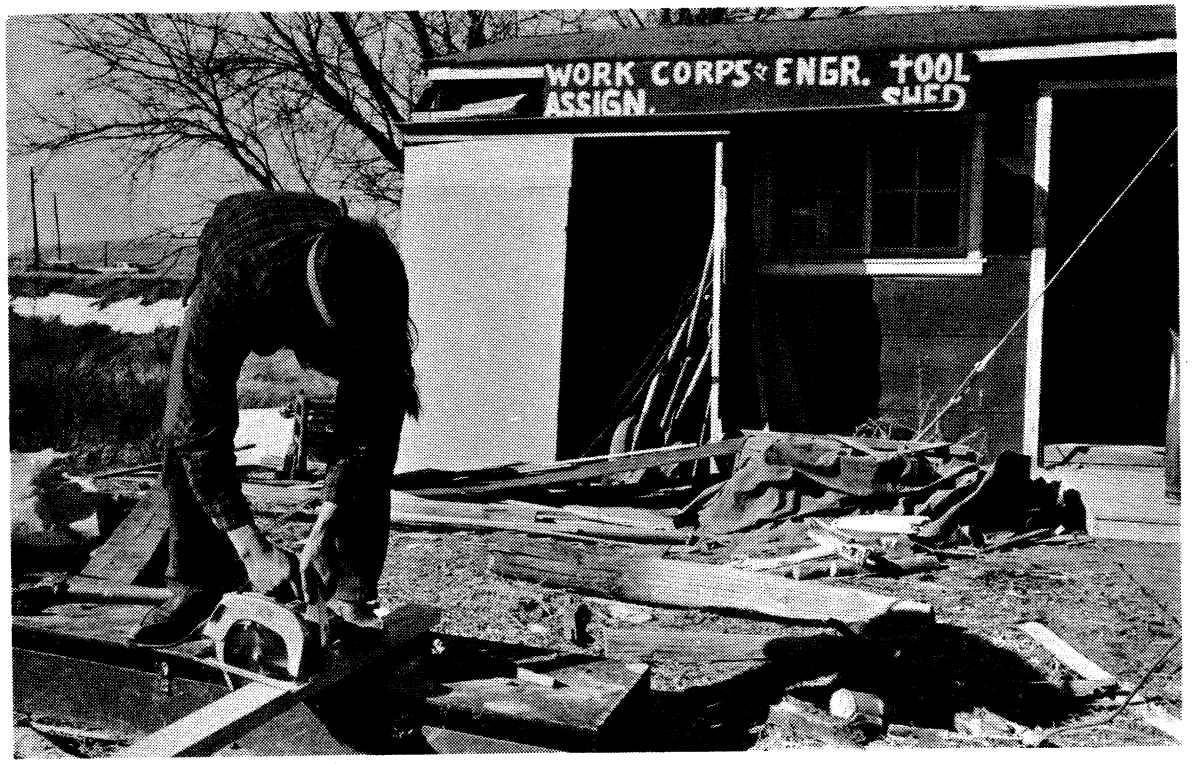
NIXON SOUNDS OFF ON LAW AND ORDER

"There are those who say that law and order are just code words for repression and bigotry. That is dangerous nonsense. Law and order are code words for goodness and decency in America."

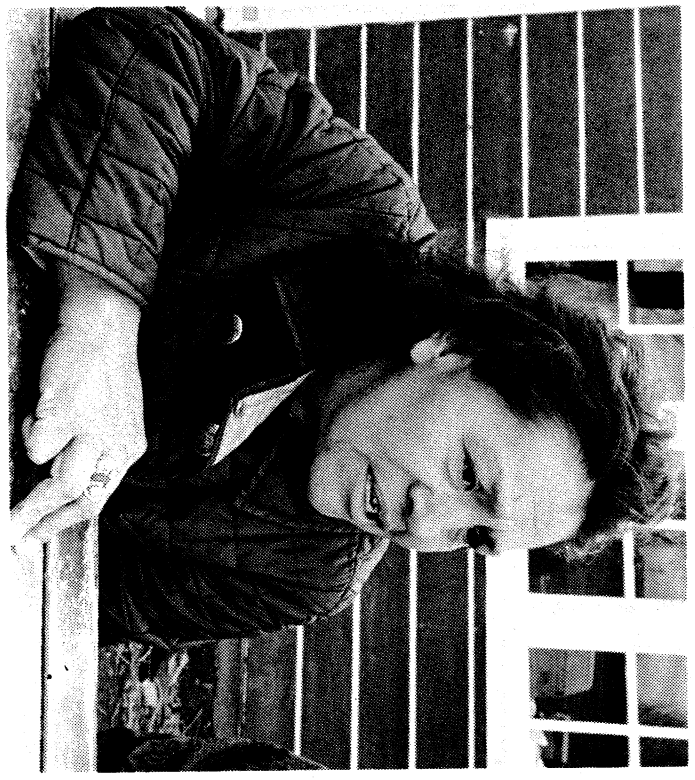
"This is tough legislation but we must settle for nothing less. The time has come for soft-headed judges and probation officers to show as much concern for the rights of innocent victims of crime as they do for the rights of convicted criminals."

--from a radio speech on crime, March 10, 1973

End text--see graphics


WORK CORPS & ENGR. TOOL
ASSIGN. SHED

CHEVROLET



TOP RIGHT: At a press conference, an older woman named Elizabeth Fast Horse defended the Indian action. CREDIT: LNS.

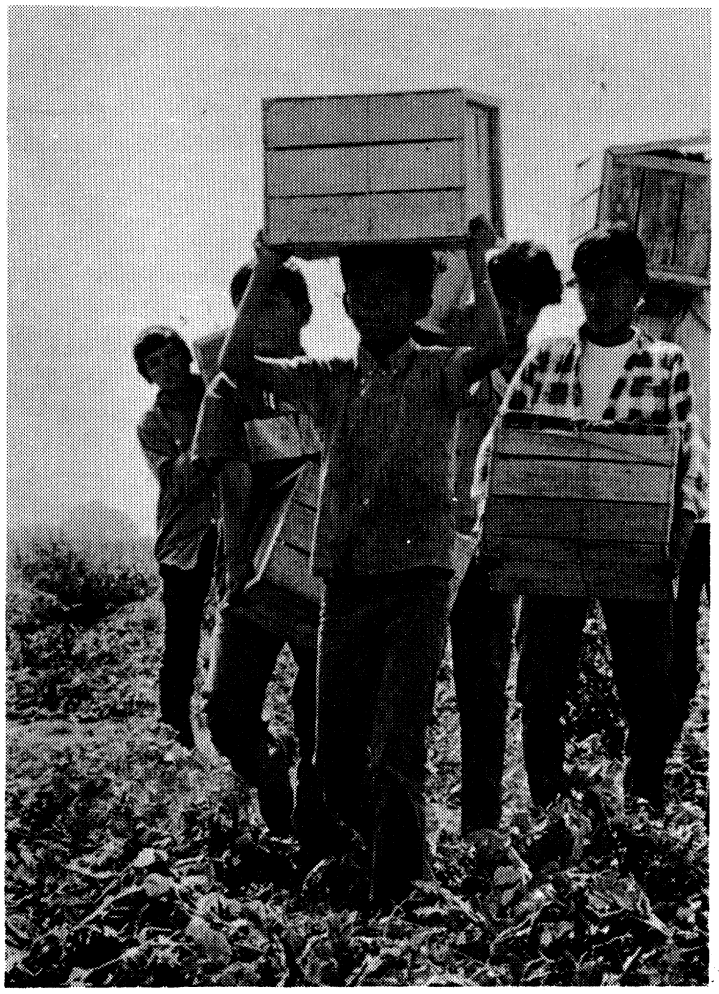
TOP LEFT: FBI agents toting M-16s man a roadblock 3 miles from the Independent Sioux Nation perimeter.
CREDIT: Ron Ridenour/LOS ANGELES FREE PRESS/LNS.

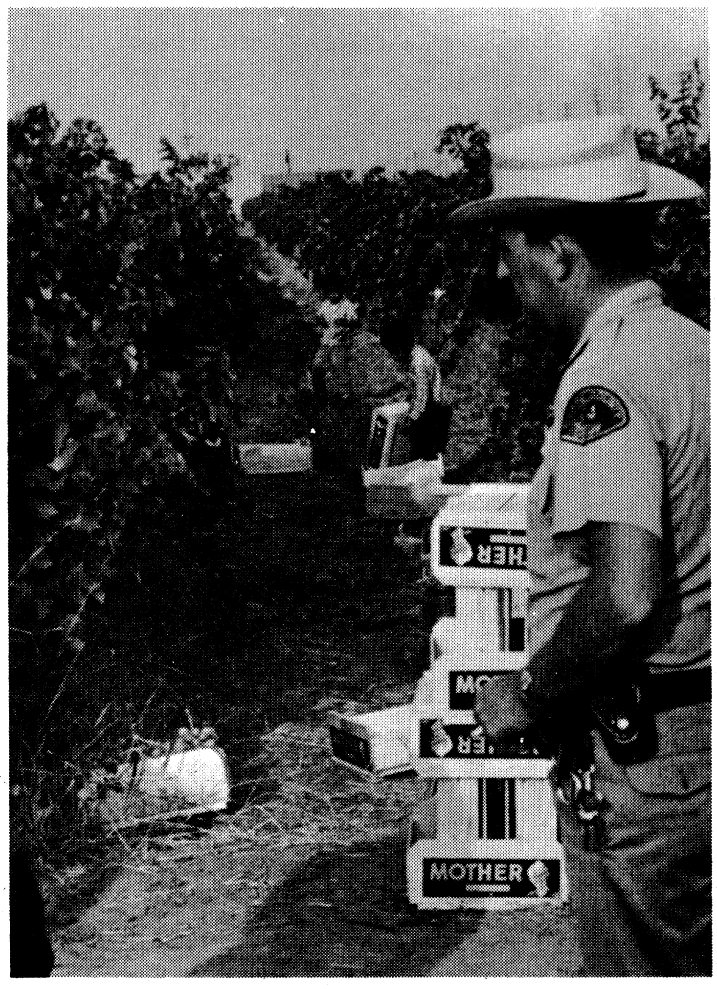
PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE GO WITH THE STORY ABOUT WOUNDED KNEE ON PAGE 11 THIS PACKET, OR THE STORIES IN PACKETS #509 and #511.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Ellen Moves Camp explains the take-over at an interview inside Wounded Knee. She is quoted in the story on page 11.
CREDIT: LNS.

BOTTOM RIGHT: About a week and a half into the occupation, Federal agents lifted their roadblocks, telling residents they would be free to come and go. But once outside, this man and his 10 day-old child were not allowed to return home. When this photo was taken (at a church set up for refugees), his wife was checking on rumors that a government flare had razed their house.
CREDIT: LNS.

BOTTOM LEFT: "Corps of Engineers" has been responsible for building partitions to make sleeping quarters in larger structures during the occupation. It has also constructed some small buildings.
CREDIT: LNS.




MOTHER

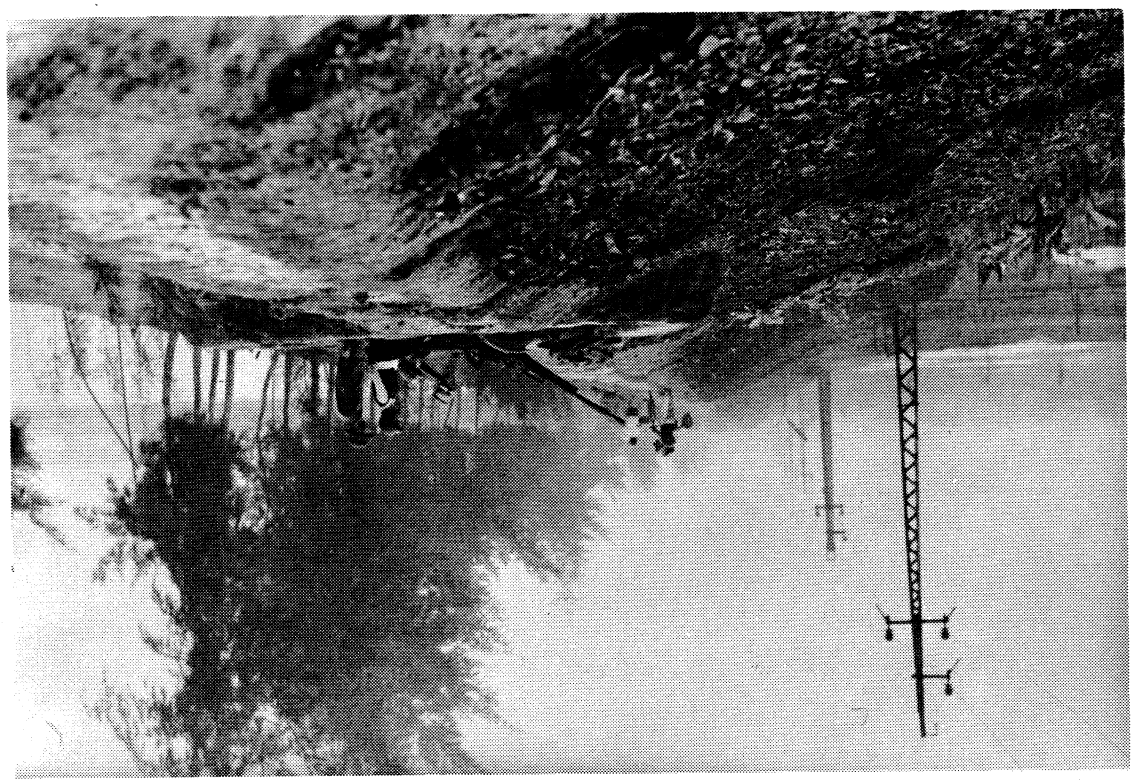
TOP RIGHT CREDIT: HUMAN LOVE IN ACTION/LNS.

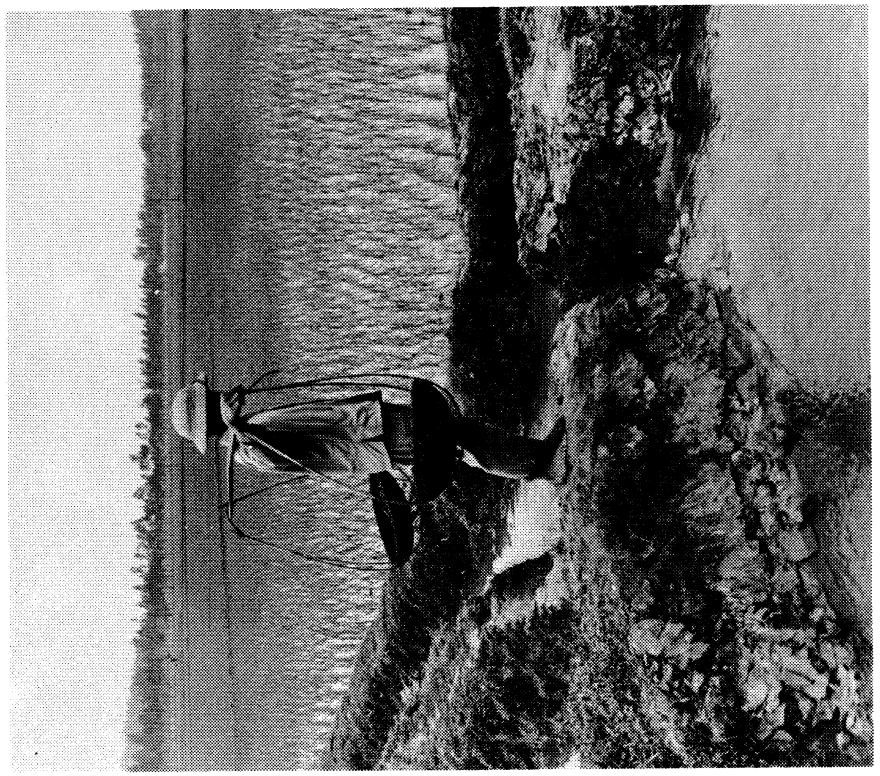
TOP LEFT CREDIT: George Ballis/HUMAN LOVE IN ACTION/LNS.

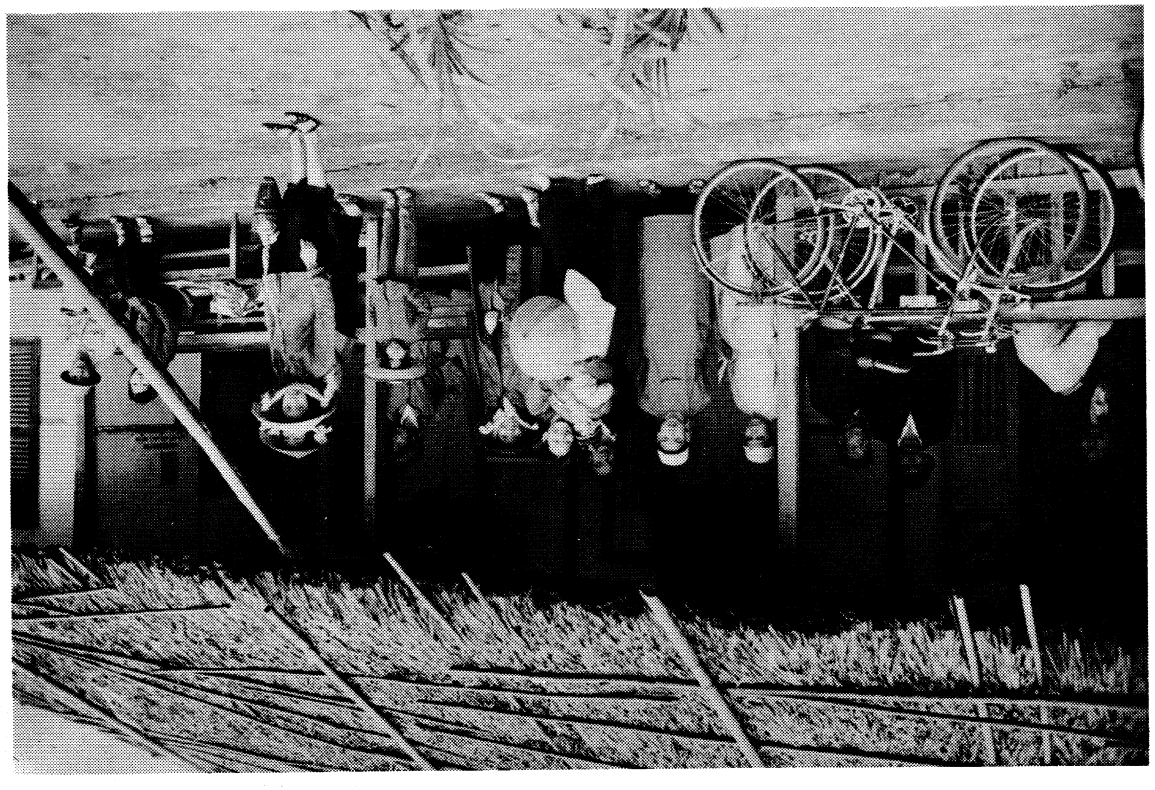
THESE PHOTOS OF FARMWORKER CHILDREN PLAYING AND WORKING IN THE FIELDS GO WITH THE STORY ON PESTICIDES ON PAGE 6 OF THIS PACKET.

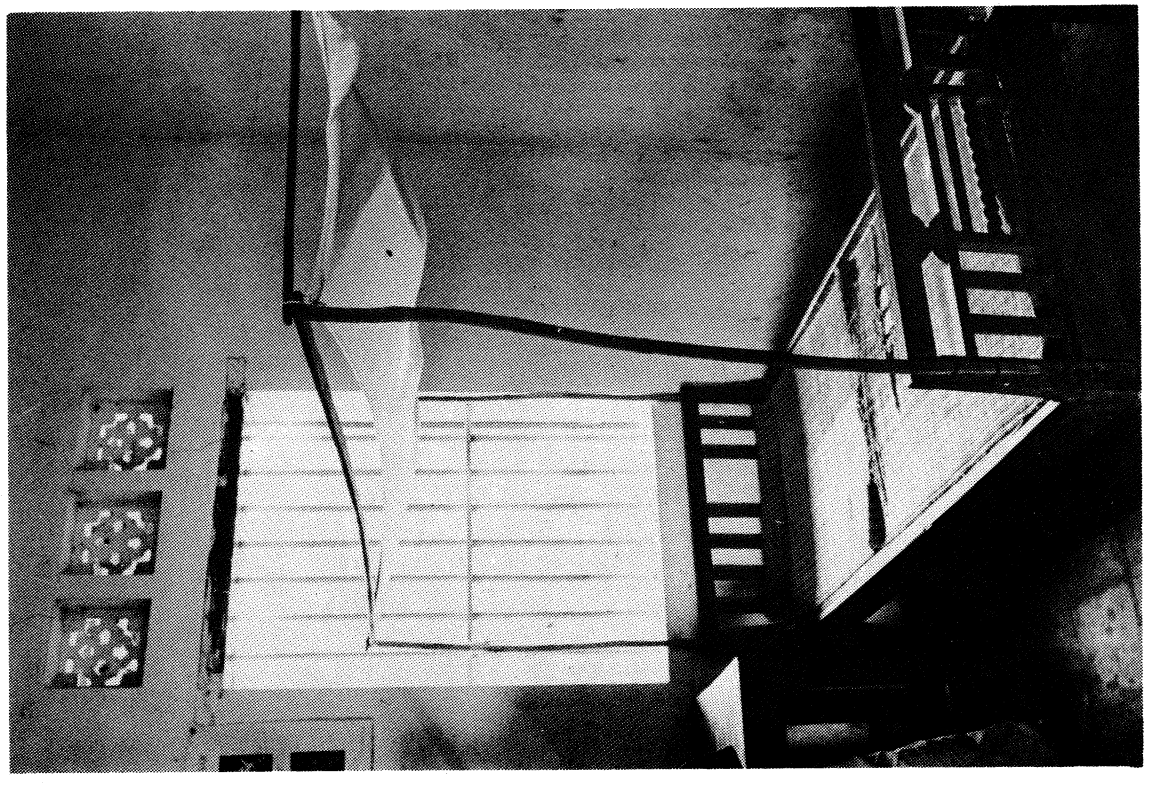
BOTTOM RIGHT CREDIT: George Ballis/HUMAN LOVE IN ACTION/LNS.

BOTTOM LEFT CREDIT: Gene Daniels/HUMAN LOVE IN ACTION/LNS.









THESE PHOTOS CAN BE USED WITH THE MAI INTERVIEW ON PAGE 8. THEY WERE ALL TAKEN IN MARCH, 1971.

CREDIT FOR ALL PHOTOS: Anne Dockery/LNS

Top Right: Nam Dinh militia in a practice drill just outside the city.

Top left: Patients and staff at a hospital in Phu Ly, a village several miles south of Hanoi. Their old hospital, a much more elaborate structure, had recently been bombed.

Bottom right: The following quote comes from the transcript of the interview on page 8, but does not appear in the interview as printed-

"When you go to North Vietnam you get a very real sense of what the dikes mean to the Vietnamese people. I had read about the dike system, its history and its importance, the fact that there's been famine and starvation when the dikes haven't been in repair. But I had no idea of the importance of water to Vietnamese life. Everywhere there are dikes and dams, canals and water irrigation systems. Everywhere you see green meadows of rice plants, each one put in individually by hand. This combination of the water, the irrigation system, the rice planting shows you what farming, what land means to this country and how hard it is to work it."

Bottom Left: A bed in the maternity ward of a cooperative clinic in Ha Bac, several miles north of Hanoi.

LOTTA
LOTTA
LOTTA
C.B.M.
LOTTA

TOP RIGHT: A Tibetan woman tractor driver.
CREDIT: China Features/LNS

TOP LEFT: A woman navigator(right) in Wu Wen-Chu, China.
CREDIT: China Features/LNS

BOTTOM RIGHT: A worried mother who is trying to get her children home from school in Northern Ireland is caught in the cross-fire of flying stones and gas.
SEE STORY ON PAGE 1.
This photo is by Clive Limpkin, in the book, Battle of Bogside.

BOTTOM LEFT: Workers holding an assembly in the factory in Milan, Italy, that they have occupied since December, 1972.
SEE STORY ON PAGE 4.
CREDIT: SERVIRE IL POPOLO/LNS